



CITY OF HUNTINGTON BEACH

P.O. BOX 190

2000 Main Street

California 92648

CITY OF HUNTINGTON BEACH COMMUNITY SERVICES COMMISSION

REQUEST FOR ACTION

MEETING DATE: JUNE 14, 2017

SUBMITTED TO: COMMUNITY SERVICES COMMISSION

SUBMITTED BY: JANEEN LAUDENBACK, COMMUNITY SERVICES DIRECTOR

PREPARED BY: NASHA SADONO, DEPARTMENT SERVICES SPECIALIST

SUBJECT: CONCEPTUAL PLAN FOR A MULTI-USE YOUTH SPORTS FIELD
AND IMPROVEMENTS AT MURDY PARK

Statement of Issue: Development of a concept plan to create a multi-use youth sports field at the front portion of Murdy Park was approved as part of the 2016/17 Capital Improvement Project Budget. There is a need for the Community Services Commission to review and approve the concept plan and make recommendation to the City Council.

Funding Source: Park Development Fund – Account No. 22845001

Recommended Action: Approve the concept plan for a multi-use youth sports field and improvements at Murdy Park as presented and make recommendation for approval to City Council.

Alternative Action: Do not approve the concept plan for a multi-use youth sports field and improvements at Murdy Park and direct staff on how to proceed.

Analysis: Development of a concept plan to create a multi-use youth sports field at the front portion of Murdy Park was approved as part of the 2016/17 Capital Improvement Project Budget. Multi-use fields were also one of the top sports facility needs in the City per the 2016 Parks and Recreation Master Plan. Murdy Park is located at 7000 Norma Drive, bordered by Goldenwest Street and Warner Avenue. The park is a 16.04 acre community park and was constructed in 1971. Murdy Park's current amenities include the first Community Center in Huntington Beach, open turf area, tot lot, picnic shelter, tennis courts, softball fields, basketball courts, and a skate park. It is a goal for Community Services to ensure recreation facilities are renovated and upgraded to meet the current recreational interests of adults and youth.

The front turf area of Murdy Park is currently an open field but will be reconfigured to a new, 120' x 240' multi-use youth sports field, including moveable goals, enhanced pedestrian lighting, new ball containment fencing, new benches near the field, and sports field lighting. Four light poles are being proposed to light the field. The lighting will differ from stadium/arena lighting systems and will be designed to provide safe levels for practice and low level activity. Light shields and pole heights will direct illumination onto the field and reduce glare on surrounding areas. The sports field lighting will be able to serve programming on the front field that goes on until the late afternoon, especially when the sun sets earlier during the fall and winter months. The existing skate park to the south of the field and the existing basketball courts to the east will be preserved. New volleyball poles will be installed and relocated to the west of the existing basketball courts. In addition to these improvements, a new shade trellis, tables, and benches will be installed in the picnic shelter area. Modifications are needed to address the vandalism issue and to maintain a safe, family-use area. All existing trees will be preserved and protected during the process.

The back field consists of two softball fields and currently serves youth softball, youth baseball, pee wee baseball, flag football, soccer and golf camps. The back field can only be reserved through the Murdy Park Community Center. Although there is no defined field boundary in the front field, it currently serves youth sports programming including preschool multi-sports program, youth soccer, youth football, and day camps during the summer. Use of the front field is free on a first come, first serve basis unless there is a scheduled program. The proposed improvements to the front field will better serve the current public use in youth sports programming. The field is not intended to be a home base to a particular group or a competition level field.

As with all park master plans, new or updated, approval must come from both the Community Services Commission and City Council. Should Commission approve the concept plan, it will then move forward to Council for final approval. Thereafter, the project would go through the entitlement process, including any required environmental approvals. In anticipation to the concept plan being approved, staff has requested funding for construction in the 2017/18 Capital Improvement Project Budget. Current cost estimate for construction is about \$1.4 million. Staff is therefore recommending approval of the concept plan as presented.

Project Notification: Information on the proposed concept plan was mailed to residents within 1,000 feet of the park. The public input meeting was also posted in the HB Wave and on the Community Services Department webpage.

Environmental Status: As determined by the Planning Division staff, this project will go through the Design Review Board approval process.

Attachment(s):

	No.	Description
	1.	Concept Plan Prepared by RJM